

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO AND THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR ENERGY ACTION GROUP

REF: A) CAIRO 3997; B) STATE 243198/1; C) USNATO 6147;
D) BRUSSELS 7310; E) STATE 247765; F) USNATO 6196

BEGIN SUMMARY: MISSION HAS CONSIDERED WHAT CONTRIBUTION ALLIANCE
CONSULTATIVE MACHINERY MIGHT MAKE TOWARD THE SUCCESS OF SECRETARY'S
PROPOSAL FOR AN ENERGY ACTION GROUP (EAG) OF SENIOR INDIVIDUALS
TO DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE ENERGY PROGRAM. WE BELIEVE THAT AT A MINIMUM
EAG SHOULD TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF ONGOING WORK IN COMMITTEE ON THE
CHALLENGES OF MODERN SOCIETY (CCMS) ON ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES
AND PERHAPS DELEGATE TO IT OTHER TASK AS WELL. CERTAIN OTHER
ALLIANCE COMMITTEES MIGHT SERVE AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE
ALLIES OWN USE. MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON THIS MESSAGE AND ANY
FURTHER VIEWS WASHINGTON MAY HAVE ON POSSIBLE ALLIANCE CONTRIBUTION.
END SUMMARY

1. MISSION ASSUMES THAT EAG, IN DEVELOPING PLAN FOR COORDINATED
INTERNATIONAL EFFORT, WOULD UTILIZE AND TASK VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL
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BODIES, WHICHEVER IS BEST SUITED TO GET RESULTS ON A SPECIFIC
ASPECT OF ENERGY PROBLEM. SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL INCLUDES CALL FOR
WORK ON ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES, SUCH AS SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL
ENERGY. NATO COMMITTEE ON THE CHALLENGES OF MODERN SOCIETY (CCMS)

SEEMS PARTICULARLY SUITABLE TO ENERGY ACTION GROUP, FROM STANDPOINT OF

BOTH ONGOING CCMS PROJECTS AND CCMS METHOD. CCMS NOW ENGAGED IN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON NEAR-TERM APPLICATION OF SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY. PROVISION ALREADY MADE FOR PARTICIPATION BY KEY NON-NATO COUNTRIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING JAPAN AND EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, WHICH ARE EXPECTED JOIN IN THESE AS THEY HAVE IN CERTAIN PREVIOUS CCMS INITIATIVES. U.S. AND OTHER ALLIED EXPERTS HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED A POSSIBLE CCMS PROJECT ON ENERGY CONSERVATION. UNDER CCMS METHOD, A "PILOT" COUNTRY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH "CO-PILOT" COUNTRIES, ORGANIZES AND LEADS A MULTILATERAL WORK PROGRAM ON A PARTICULAR PROBLEM. APPROACH IS DESIGNED TO LINK DIRECTLY THE CORRESPONDING NATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES, IN AN EFFORT TO ACCELERATE IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE TECHNOLOGY OR METHODOLOGY FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. RECORD OF CCMS IN MOBILIZING GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY RESOURCES IN MAJOR MULTILATERAL EFFORTS ON CLEAN ENGINE SYSTEMS AND EXPERIMENTAL SAFETY VEHICLE DEVELOPMENT SUGGESTS THAT IT CAN PRODUCE IMPORTANT RESULTS ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AS WELL. BEYOND TECHNOLOGICAL FALLOUT OF THIS INTENSIFIED MULTILATERAL COOPERATION, CCMS OBJECTIVE IS DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS. MISSION BELIEVES ENERGY ACTION GROUP COULD DRAW ON CCMS WORK ON SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION, AND PERHAPS DELEGATE TO IT OTHER TASKS AS WELL IN THE FIELD OF ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY (E.G. FUEL CELLS, COAL GASIFICATION, ETC.).

2. THREE OTHER ALLIANCE COMMITTEES ARE INVOLVED IN ENERGY. THEIR WORK MAY NOT BE IMMEDIATELY APPLICABLE TO THE ENERGY ACTION GROUP, ALTHOUGH THEY COULD SERVE AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE ALLIES' OWN USE. NATO ECONOMIC COMMITTEE IS NOW PREPARING A REPORT, WITH A DEADLINE OF JANUARY OR FEBRUARY, ON CURRENT ENERGY SITUATION WITH EMPHASIS ON COHESION AND SOLIDARITY OF THE ALLIANCE. THIS COMMITTEE HAS CONSIDERABLE EXPERTISE ON ENERGY IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. NATO PETROLEUM PLANNING COMMITTEE PERIODICALLY BRINGS HIGH LEVEL MEMBER STATE OIL OFFICIALS TO NATO,

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FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING. NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE HAS FACILITATED COORDINATION OF ALLIED AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY IN MORE ADVANCED RESEARCH FIELDS. THIS COMMITTEE IN MID-OCTOBER SPONSORED A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (UNDER JOINT U.S. CHAIRMANSHIP) ON TECHNOLOGY OF EFFICIENT ENERGY UTILIZATION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON THIS MESSAGE AND ANY FURTHER VIEWS WASHINGTON MAY HAVE ON POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF ALLIANCE TO ESTABLISHMENT AND WORK OF EAG. NAC WILL DISCUSS THE SECRETARY'S ENERGY PROPOSAL FURTHER IN EARLY JANUARY (USNATO 6196). TO KEEP ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS AND TO ANSWER ALLIES' QUESTIONS HERE, MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING

MESSAGE TRAFFIC ON EAG.
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